

March 14 to

April 30, 1983



1883.

ECHOES OF THE YEAR



Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

1883: ECHOES OF THE YEAR

An Exhibition at the
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library
University of Toronto

March 14-April 30, 1983

On the occasion of the Conference of 1883
University College

April 14-16, 1983

Introduction

In 1883 Karl Marx died and John Maynard Keynes was born. Marx died in poverty and obscurity, his writings contributing another substantial addition to the voluminous controversial literature of the age. Keynes's economic theories did not emerge until the 1920's and by that time the neglected theories of Marx had begun to directly influence the fate of a significant portion of the world's population. In 1983 we struggle with the consequences of the influence of both these men. The year 1883 also reflected the immediate past and can be viewed as a culmination of Victorianism. From the perspective of one hundred years we are able to appreciate the rich variety of accomplishments in literature, theatre, music, art, architecture, history, science, medicine and theology by the famous figures of the time, and recognize many of the intimations for the future.

This eclectic exhibition has been mounted in conjunction with the 1883 Conference to be held at University College from April 14th to 16th 1983. The Conference will bring together scholars and students from Europe and North America who, although working in many different academic fields, all share interest in the period. They will discuss such varied topics as the Bible criticism of Matthew Arnold, Richard Wagner's death, Impressionism, Pre-Raphaelitism, the religious toleration of Gladstone, Canadian history, the English electoral system, and publishing in 1883. The exhibition, to which contributions have been made by several members of the staff of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and other members of the University of Toronto, reflects the variety of subjects of the Conference and provides the "echoes" of the year as represented by the collections of the University Library.

Those echoes still reverberate and there are many evocative surprises for the viewer of this exhibition. We still read Treasure Island and still applaud Iolanthe. We still walk across the Brooklyn Bridge and ride across Canada on the rails of the Canadian Pacific. We are vaccinated against cholera and diphtheria and continue to debate the real meaning of the theory of natural selection. The Dictionary of National Biography is still a standard source of reference and the British Commonwealth survives.

We do not, perhaps, read much Tennyson or often view The Silver King. Mention of the Affirmation Bill is not likely to provoke any controversial

reactions and the doctrine of Atonement is not much debated by the general populace. The visible manifestations of the intellectual activity of the time remain, however, and we can still marvel at the gilded intricacies of Victorian bindings although we may not wish to read the books which they cover.

Among the unjustly neglected personages of 1883 is George Augustus Sala (1828-1896), journalist and bon vivant, who may be said to be the progenitor of both the Conference and this exhibition. His Echoes of the Year Eighteen Hundred and Eighty-Three, published in 1884, attempted to capture the essence of the year by reprinting a wide-ranging selection of brief essays from his popular column "Echoes of the Week" in the Illustrated London News which he divided into several sections, including biography, history, politics, science, drama and sports.

Sala's extraordinary career might be taken as a paradigm of Victorian industriousness. He began his career as a draughtsman and engraver, influenced by Cruikshank and Browne, but in 1848 began to contribute articles to Chat, a struggling weekly newspaper. From 1851 to 1856 he wrote an article a week for Dickens's Household Words and in 1856 was sent to Russia to cover the end of the Crimean War. This was only the first of his commissions as a "special correspondent" and he reported on the American Civil War, visited most of the European countries, and made an extended journey to the Far East and Australia for the Daily Telegraph. For nearly twenty-five years he contributed two articles a day, Saturdays excepted, to that paper and his income from journalism rose to 2000 pounds a year. Sala also wrote fiction, The Strange Adventures of Captain Dangerous (3 volumes, 1863) being his best remembered novel.

Sala spent his considerable earnings freely. In 1857 he helped found the Savage Club and became an active member of several other clubs. He collected china and books (his large library was sold in 1895) and had a considerable reputation as a gourmet. In the section on gastronomy in Echoes of the Year there appears a lengthy discussion between Sala and several correspondents on the question of whether turtle soup was manufactured from conger eels, and his last book was an elaborate cookery book called The Thorough Good Cook.

Sala would, one suspects, be pleased to view this exhibition and hear the Conference papers. Although he would discover that much of what seems

significant to us in 1983 was not noticed by him in Echoes of the Year he would surely approve of the celebration and would write an enthusiastic review for the Sunday Times.

Richard Landon
March 1983



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CASE I: ENGLISH LITERATURE

Literature published in 1883 included the old, the currently popular, and the innovative. The "establishment" authors, Browning, Tennyson and Trollope, had long been the reigning favourites of the British reading public. 1883 saw publications by all three, although posthumous in the case of Trollope who had died in December 1882. The poet, Swinburne, well known since his Atalanta in Calydon had appeared in 1865, also published in this year.

Charles Reade, whose novel The Wandering Heir was published as a "yellowback" in 1883, was in a slightly different category. Firmly fixed in the minds of the reading public as a "good" writer since his notable success, The Cloister on the Hearth (1861), he had a devoted following, although many of his subsequent books were inferior. It was characteristic of the yellowback phenomenon that well known authors like Reade should appear side by side with obscure hack writers.

In the same way, the popular periodicals of the day were vehicles for both famous and unknown authors. Trollope and Reade published their novels as serials in periodicals of varying standards. The Cornhill Magazine, aimed at the better-educated middle-class reader, published Thackeray, Trollope, George Eliot, and Henry James. Good Words, a family type magazine, published novels by Trollope and Charles Kingsley, as well as articles with religious and moral uplift. The Leisure Hour, an improving magazine issued by the Religious Tract Society, was popular among the less educated classes, and offered the occasional serialized novel by such best selling authors as Mrs. Henry Wood. That worthy lady, like many other successful authors, published her own periodical, The Argosy, frequently using it to get her own stories into print.

Robert Louis Stevenson and Thomas Hardy also contributed to periodicals. Indeed the first published works of both were essays for Macmillan's Magazine and Chambers's Journal respectively. Even the renowned Treasure Island, published in book form in 1883, first appeared as a serial in a children's magazine. Hardy's first published article, "How I Built Myself a House", had appeared in Chambers's in 1865, and reflected his early career as an architect. Hardy was already writing verse but then turned seriously to prose, and from 1871 until 1897, produced one novel after another, frequently in serial form. His 1883 contribution to the Graphic, entitled The Romantic Adventures of a Milkmaid, a story for which he had little regard, had sufficient charm to captivate an immense American audience.

George Moore published A Modern Lover in 1883. Living in Paris and studying art, Moore had been greatly influenced by the new French realism in art and literature. A Modern Lover caused only a slight ripple on the English literary scene but Moore's next novel, The Mummer's Wife, published in 1884, was greeted with cries of outrage.

Henry James was to be a far stronger influence on the novel of the future. In the 1870's he had established himself as an author of considerable merit, and with his classic, The Portrait of a Lady (1881), he had definitely arrived as a major novelist. In 1883 he published a collection of three stories, entitled The Siege of London, a collection of travel articles entitled Portraits of Places, and a dramatization of Daisy Miller.

Charles Reade. The Wandering Heir. London: Chatto and Windus, 1883.

Texas Siftings. London: George Routledge, 1883.

The Life and Adventures of Peter Wilkins. London: George Routledge, 1883.

The "yellowback" grew out of the demand of the expanding Victorian reading public for exciting fiction in inexpensive format. The true "yellowback" had bright yellow glazed paper covers with a gripping illustration from the novel on the front and advertisements for a variety of products, including Pears soap, on the back. George Routledge answered the need for cheap reading material with a large series of sixpenny editions. Texas Siftings and The Life and Adventures of Peter Wilkins are examples of this format. Their authors preferred to remain anonymous.

Robert Browning. Jocoseria. London: Smith, Elder, 1883.

A late work from an ageing poet whose first book had appeared fifty years before, in 1833. Browning's popularity never waned, and any work he published was eagerly read by a large and devoted public.

Lord Alfred Tennyson. The Promise of May. In Becket and Other Plays. London: Macmillan, 1888.

Possibly encouraged by his success with dialect poems like Northern Farmer, Old Style, Tennyson attempted a play using the Lincolnshire dialect. Henry Irving had produced an earlier verse play, The Cup, with some success in 1881, but The Promise of May was too melodramatic even for Irving and was also refused by the Kendals. It was published in proof form in 1883 and marked the end of Tennyson's attempts to become a playwright.

Anthony Trollope. An Autobiography. Edinburgh: W. Blackwood, 1883.

When Trollope died in December, 1882, he was still a revered novelist. He left his autobiography in the hands of his son, Henry Trollope, with instructions to publish it as he saw fit. When the work appeared in 1883 it was eagerly read by the novelist's admirers but it had a dampening affect on their enthusiasm. Trollope had been depressingly frank about his rather workaday habits as an author, apparently a mistake in Victorian England where writers were considered more or less divinely inspired. The sale of his books fell off rapidly and his works went out of fashion for several decades.

Algernon Charles Swinburne. A Century of Roundels. London: Chatto & Windus, 1883.

A second edition of this book of poetry appeared in the same year, and a third in 1892, attesting to the poet's continuing popularity. A poem on the death of Wagner makes this book very much a part of 1883.

The Cornhill Magazine. New Series, vol. 1 (July-Dec. 1883). London: Smith, Elder, 1883.

This serious monthly, founded in 1860 and still flourishing today, was established by George Smith, the great Victorian publisher. Under the distinguished editorship of Thackeray and later of Leslie Stephen, it attracted excellent contributors. As well as serializing such novels as Hardy's Far from the Madding Crowd and George Eliot's Romola, it published critical reviews and non-fiction works, including Matthew Arnold's Culture and Anarchy. The issues for 1883 included contributions by Henry James, Grant Allen, Violet Paget, Andrew Lang, W.H. Hudson, and W.E. Norris. The volume on display is open at "A Slight Misunderstanding" by W.E. Norris with an illustration by George DuMaurier.

Good Words. London: Isbister, 1883.

Less intellectual in content than The Cornhill, Good Words furnished a good supply of reading material for the lower middle classes. They were offered poetry, some religious instruction, and serialized fiction by both established and unknown authors. The 1883 volume on exhibit is open at chapter eleven of Pearla by M. Betham-Edwards, and shows a full page illustration by Davidson Knowles.

Robert Louis Stevenson. Treasure Island. Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1884.

The best known sea story in the world began as a story for boys entitled The Sea Cook. A friend of Stevenson's showed it to the editor of Young Folks who changed the title and ran it as a serial in 1881 and 1882. Surprisingly it appears to have been a comparative failure as a serial. When Treasure Island appeared in book form in 1883, however, it captured the English reading public and is still a favourite today. Shown is the first illustrated edition which is also the first American edition.

Thomas Hardy. The Romantic Adventures of a Milkmaid. New York: J.W. Lovell, 1883.

Hardy wrote in his diary on February 25, 1883: "Sent a short hastily written novel to The Graphic for Summer Number." He must have been amazed at its subsequent success. Extremely popular in the United States, it was widely pirated despite Harper's having published it in both Harper's Weekly and in the Franklin Square Library. When Hardy finally and reluctantly decided to collect the story in A Changed Man (1916), he made several changes in locale, perhaps to avoid any obvious resemblance to Tess of the D'Urbervilles.

George Moore. A Modern Lover. London: Tinsley, 1883.

Moore's first published novel. The hero, Lewis Seymour, modelled on Moore's recent companion in Paris, Lewis Hawkins, is an egoist who is helped all his life by women. Moore made no money from this book, largely because the lending libraries objected to "a scene in which a girl sat to an artist". The reviewers, however, were quite encourag-

ing and Moore got good publicity as well when he aired his complaint against the lending libraries in the Pall Mall Gazette. Moore wrote to Zola, acknowledging his debt to him: "The fact that my novel has been successful may interest you; for, as I have already said, I owe you everything".

Henry James. Daisy Miller; a Comedy in Three Acts. Boston: J.R. Osgood and Co., 1883.

This dramatized version of Daisy Miller was rejected by stage managers in both New York and London. "Drop a tear," wrote Henry James to Isabella Stewart Gardner in Boston, "a diminutive tear (as your tears must be - small but perfectly shaped pearls)." Thus did the established author write off the failure of his first drama. He was to be less philosophical when his later plays, which were actually produced in England in the 1890's, failed completely. He fortunately returned to fiction and in the great novels which followed - The Ambassadors (1903); The Golden Bowl (1904) - introduced the twentieth century novel to the world.

R. Grover

CASE II: THEATRE

"Dramatic and Musical Echoes"

The London theatre season of 1883 could be described as partly nostalgic revival of the old beloved melodramas, partly traditional purveyor of the classics, especially the romantic plays of Shakespeare, and partly as harbinger of the "new drama" of the 1890's which was just beginning to emerge in the works of Henry Arthur Jones, Arthur Wing Pinero, and Oscar Wilde.

In this year Henry Irving and Ellen Terry were at the height of their fame, starring together in Much Ado About Nothing, a production which ran for over seven months. In the summer of 1883 Irving also revived The Bells, the melodrama in which he had first won renown in 1871. Honours, tributes in both prose and verse, bouquets, and banquets were heaped upon him as he prepared to leave with Ellen Terry and the Lyceum company for their first American tour. The Bells and Much Ado were hits in the United States and American theatre goers joined their English counterparts in applauding Irving and Terry as the brightest stars of the age.

Throughout 1883, audiences in London were delighted by Gilbert and Sullivan's new operetta, Iolanthe, at Mr. D'Oyly Carte's Savoy Theatre. Sullivan received a knighthood in this year. Gilbert, whose libretti often ridiculed the foibles of the upper classes, was not so honoured, however, and had to wait for his knighthood until 1907.

Henry Arthur Jones's romantic new play, The Silver King, ran for months before enthusiastic audiences, but Pinero's new works -- all three of them -- failed utterly, as did Oscar Wilde's drama about Russian nihilists, performed in New York City to unanimously damning reviews. Hardly anyone in England had heard of Ibsen in 1883, although his newest play, An Enemy of the People, was being acclaimed throughout Europe. The "new drama" was still only a faint glimmer.

The Miller and His Men. Playbook and sheets for the juvenile theatre published by Pollock.

A classic of the nineteenth century toy or juvenile theatre. The original melodrama by Isaac Pocock was first produced at Covent Garden in 1813. Frequently revived throughout the first part of the century, it appears to have been performed on the real stage of the Criterion in 1883. Its popularity on the toy stage continued into the twentieth century and reflects the enduring love of melodrama on the part of both children and adults throughout Victorian times.

Gustave Garcia. The Actors' Art; a Practical Treatise on Stage Declamation, Public Speaking, and Deportment. London: 1882.

The illustrations show the romantic and passionate school of acting which was still in favour in the 1880's and practised by the outstanding actor of the age, Sir Henry Irving, in such melodramas as The Bells.

Original playbill for Henry Irving's much acclaimed production of Much Ado About Nothing. Irving played Benedict to Ellen Terry's Beatrice. The play opened in the fall of 1882 and ran for 212 performances, closing in June of 1883.

Portrait of Irving as Benedict. In Henry Irving: a Biographical Sketch, by Austin Brereton (London: 1884).

Photograph of Ellen Terry at the time of her first American tour in 1883. In The Theatre; a Monthly Review of the Drama, Music and Fine Arts. Edited by Clement Scott. July-December 1883.

Contemporary review of Arthur Pinero's farce, The Rector; a Story of Four Friends. In The Theatre, May 1883.

One of three farces by Pinero which were produced in 1883, The Rector had opened at the Court Theatre in March. As the review indicates, the play was not a success and it was withdrawn in April. Pinero's other two efforts met a similar fate but his experiments with the genre bore fruit in 1885 when The Magistrate opened at the Court Theatre, the first of his exceptionally successful "Court Farces". His best known "social" dramas, like The Second Mrs. Tanqueray, lay almost another decade ahead.

Henry Arthur Jones. The Silver King. Written in collaboration with Henry Herman. In Representative Plays, vol. 1 (Boston: 1925).

The hit of the 1882-1883 London theatre season, The Silver King

opened in November 1882 and continued to play to enthusiastic audiences throughout much of 1883, receiving high praise from the critics. Although still using many elements from the genre of melodrama, the play addressed real social questions of the day with seriousness and commitment. The Graphic called it "unquestionably the most interesting romantic drama which has been produced on our stage for many years".

Sir Arthur Sullivan. Iolanthe; or, the Peer and the Peri. Written by W.S. Gilbert. Composed by Arthur Sullivan. New York: 1882.

Opened at Mr. D'Oyly Carte's Savoy Theatre on Nov. 25, 1882, and continued to run with great success throughout 1883.

Oscar Wilde. Vera; or, The Nihilists. A Drama. Now first published. Priv. print., 1902. Limited edition of 200 copies.

Wilde's first play, written in 1881, and performed in 1883 at the Union Square Theatre in New York City during Wilde's American tour. The American notices were uniformly bad. The New York Tribune called the play "a foolish highly-peppered story of love, intrigue, and politics, with Russian accessories of fur and dark lanterns, and overlaid with bantam gabble about freedom and the people ... little better than fizzle" and the New York Herald described it as "long drawn dramatic rot". The columnist for the Illustrated London News, George Augustus Sala, however, suggested that the play might have succeeded in England where the audiences are "passionately fond of fervid utterances about Freedom and the People" and went on to urge that "Mr. Wilde should not be discouraged by the animadversions of his American critics. He should try his dramatic hand again, and may 'strike ile' yet". Nine years later, in 1892, Lady Windemere's Fan was to prove the prediction correct.

Henrik Ibsen. Nora. Translated from the Norwegian by Henrietta Frances Lord. London: 1882.

The first English translation of The Doll's House, and the first publication in English of Ibsen's work. The Doll's House was performed in Louisville, Kentucky in December 1883, but was not seen in its original form in a London theatre until 1889. By 1883 Ibsen's work was becoming known by a few playwrights and critics, however, and in 1884 an adaptation of The Doll's House by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled Breaking a Butterfly, was staged at the Princess.

George Augustus Sala. Echoes of the Year Eighteen Hundred and Eighty-Three. London: 1884.

A collection of idiosyncratic columns published in the Illustrated London News during 1883 in which Sala discusses newly published literary works, architectural developments, sporting events, the London theatrical season, gastronomy, political incidents, and a host of other topics. The chapters entitled "Dramatic and musical echoes" include more than fifty productions, each described with characteristic relish and discernment, and form the context for this section of the Fisher Library's 1883 Exhibition.

CASE III: ARCHITECTURE

Langley, Langley & Burke, architects. McMaster Hall, 1883. (In American Architect and Building News, v. 14, 1883)

Erected and equipped at the sole expense of Senator William McMaster (d. 1887) the building housed the classrooms of the new Baptist Theological College, which together with the other denominational colleges formed the then-called Provincial University, situated around Queen's Park. The building cost the Senator \$60,000, and is a fine example of the neo-gothic style so popular in this period. It now houses the Royal Conservatory of Music.

William Lee Younger. Old Brooklyn. New York: Dover Publications, 1978.

No exhibition of the events of 1883 could fail to mention the Brooklyn Bridge. Opened for traffic on May 24, 1883, it was the longest bridge in the world and the first suspension bridge to use steel-wire cables. Easily recognizable by the two massive towers from which the main suspension cables and 400 wire-rope stay cables radiate, it was designated by the United States Department of the Interior as a national historic landmark in 1964.

William Tyrrell (1816-1904).

William Tyrrell was a building contractor in the Weston Area and reeve of Weston for many years. In 1844 Tyrrell built St. George's-on-the-Hill, Islington and in 1849, a mill, the ruins of which still stand on the site of the Old Mill Restaurant in Etobicoke. On display is the initial plan for the Weston Town Hall, called Dufferin Hall, drawn by Tyrrell in 1883.

Wayne Andrews. Architecture in Chicago & Mid-America. 1st ed. New York: Atheneum, 1968.

William Le Baron Jenney, an engineer, built in 1883 what is generally considered to be the world's first skyscraper - the eleven storey Home Insurance Building in Chicago. This building has since been demolished.

McKim, Mead & White, architects (1870-1919).

For more than a quarter of a century, McKim, Mead & White was the largest architectural firm in the world, producing buildings of a quality and at a rate that impressed colleagues and the public both in America and England. Because of the profusion and dissemination of its work, its widespread publication, and its influence on the hundreds of young architects who worked for it, McKim, Mead & White had a pronounced effect on the architecture of its own generation and on that which followed.

On display is a plan for a townhouse designed by McKim, Mead & White for Charles A. Whittier in Boston. Started in 1881 and completed in 1883, it was built at a cost of \$153,178.00. It has since been demolished.

Ehrick Kensett Rossiter. Modern House Painting. 2nd rev. ed. New York: W.T. Comstock, 1883.

An example of the muted, earth-tone colour schemes suitable for a wooden house built in the United States in the late 1870's and early 1880's.

L. Hussel/M. Pearson

CASE IV: CANADA

The completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway across western Canada in the 1880s opened the prairies to a flood of settlers from the east and from the British Isles and Europe. Guide books, brochures and maps of all kinds were produced to help or entice the emigrant. Settlement also brought conflict between the newcomers and the native peoples, conflict which was to precipitate the North West Rebellion of 1885 led by Louis Riel.

The 1880s were also a time of great cultural activity, reinforced by a strong feeling of nationalism. The "Royal Society of Canada for the Promotion of Literature and Science in the Dominion" was organized in 1882 and published the first volume of its Proceedings and Transactions the following year. The Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, which had been founded under the patronage of the Marquis of Lorne in 1880, held annual exhibitions, and the "diploma pictures" required of each artist elected to the Academy were to form the nucleus of the National Gallery collection. In the field of literature poetry predominated: the decade was to see the first published work of Archibald Lampman, Charles G.D. Roberts, and Isabella Valancy Crawford and the important anthology Songs of the Great Dominion (1889), edited by William D. Lighthall.

Picturesque Canada was an ambitious work issued in thirty-six parts between 1882 and 1884 by the Belden brothers of Toronto. The text was edited by George Monro Grant, principal of Queen's University, who in Ocean to Ocean (1873) had described his expedition across Canada in 1872 with Sandford Fleming, engineer-in-chief of the CPR. The art director was Lucius O'Brien, the first president of the Royal Canadian Academy. Though hardly as representative as its promoters had promised in their prospectus of the country and its artists, it was a success and remains one of the best known publications of its time.

A different view of the country is provided in the comic weekly Grip, founded in 1873 by J.W. Bengough. His cartoons satirized all aspects of Canadian life--politics, religion, education, and social customs. The nineteenth century was, of course, an age of periodicals; other important publications of the 1880s include the Canadian Illustrated News (1869-83), the Canadian Monthly, later Rose-Belford's Canadian Monthly (1872-82), the Bystander (1880-90), and the Week (1883-96). Later in the decade the longest lived of Canadian magazines, Saturday Night, was to make its appearance.

The Intercolonial Railway of Canada. [n.p., 188-?]

With inset showing the route of the partially completed Canadian Pacific Railway across western Canada.

Canadian land advertiser. Issued for distribution in Canada and in Great Britain and Ireland amongst British emigrants. Toronto: Published by W.J. Fenton & Co. in connection with their real estate agency [1883?]

W.B. Macdougall. Macdougall's illustrated guide, gazetteer and practical hand-book for Manitoba and the North-West, 1883; with the latest official maps, land regulations, etc. Winnipeg: Macdougall, 1883.

Thomas Spence. Useful and practical hints for the settler on Canadian prairie lands, and for the guidance of intending British emigrants to Manitoba and the North-West of Canada. [St. Boniface, 1882].

J.G. Moore. Fifteen months round about Manitoba and the North West; a lecture. Stratford-upon-Avon: G. Boyden, Printer [1883].

The British North-West; pen and sun pictures in the Canadian wheat lands. St. Paul: Pioneer Press Publishing Co., 1882.

George Monro Grant. Picturesque Canada; the country as it was and is. Toronto: Art Publishing Co. [1882-84].

Three of the original thirty-six paper-covered parts.

Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. Records of the founding. [Toronto, 1883?]

Annual exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts and Ontario Society of Artists, held in the Educational Museum, Toronto; catalogue. Toronto: T. Hill, 1883.

The Bystander; a monthly review of current events, Canadian and general. Toronto.

Volume for 1883.

Grip. Toronto.

Issues for 1883. Edited and illustrated by J.W. Bengough.

E. Hulse

CASE V: NATURAL HISTORY

Charles Darwin, the greatest biologist of the age, died on April 19th 1882 and became the only naturalist to be interred in Westminster Abbey. It is thus not too surprising that much of what was published in 1883 on natural

history directly reflected the prominence of the theory of natural selection. Alongside the serious scientific treatises, however, stood a large number of popular works on natural history, for this was also the great age of the amateur naturalist. No expedition to the country-side or the sea-shore could be considered really worthwhile unless specimens of flora and fauna were gathered, notes on natural phenomena compiled, and the wonders of the universe thoroughly discussed. This activity required both interpretive guides and popular exposition and the publishers of popular works on natural history flourished accordingly. As the study of nature was also considered educational many of the books had a clear pedagogical function and were aimed directly at students. The books were usually illustrated with woodcuts or lithographs and their popular appeal was emphasized by elaborately decorative cover designs. A few of the eye-catching titles available in 1883 included The Fairy-Land of Science, Life and Her Children, Wings and Stings, Glimpses into Plant Life, and Natural History Rambles Underground.

One of Darwin's last pieces of writing was a preface he wrote for the English translation (by D'Arcy W. Thompson) of Hermann Müller's The Fertilisation of Flowers. This important contribution to understanding the relationships between insects and flowering plants had first been published in Germany ten years previously and followed closely lines of investigation suggested by Darwin's own work. Another previously unpublished work by Darwin appeared in 1883 as an appendix to George Romanes' Mental Evolution in Animals, under the title "Posthumous Essay on Instinct". It was actually part of Darwin's so-called "Big Book" on the origin of species, planned and partly written many years previously but which never appeared as a complete work. The "Essay on Instinct", which was part of Chapter X, was read as a paper by Romanes at a meeting of the Linnaean Society of London on December 6th, 1883.

Thomas Henry Huxley, "Darwin's Bulldog", contributed greatly to the acceptance of the theory of natural selection through his many books on the species question and his numerous public lectures. Six of the lectures were collected together and published in the United States in 1883 under the title On the Origin of Species. Although Darwin's theories were generally accepted by scientists in America by 1883, popular endorsement was only achieved through the publication of most of Darwin's books by the New York firm of Appleton, who also issued this book. Huxley, who is remembered principally for his vigorous defence of Darwinism, also contributed independent scientific studies in vertebrate and invertebrate zoology and paleontology and was one of the leading intellectual figures of the age.

Grant Allen, whose love of natural history was nurtured during a boyhood spent in the area of the Thousand Islands, pursued an eclectic literary career. His scientific books, including Flowers and Their Pedigrees (published in 1883), won him the admiration of Darwin, Huxley, and Wallace but failed to make him a living. After 1883 he turned to fiction and travel guides, which were more remunerative, and achieved a certain notoriety with The Woman Who Did in 1895. He continued, however, to publish essays on many different subjects, including natural history and truly earned the complimentary title "man of letters".

Samuel Butler, self-styled as a "philosophical writer", is best remembered as the author of Erewhon and The Way of All Flesh. He was, however, keenly interested in natural history and pursued the problems posed by various theories of evolution through four books. Evolution Old and New,

the second edition of which appeared in 1882, attempted to compare the evolutionary theories of Buffon, Erasmus Darwin and Lamarck with the theory of natural selection of Charles Darwin. Butler was critical of Darwin and his strictures led, indirectly, to the famous quarrel, doggedly pursued by Butler long after Darwin's demise. As a naturalist Butler's methods of research were unorthodox: not for him the tedious tramping of forest lane or tidal shingle, the slow collection and painstaking investigation of countless specimens. He conducted his research in the Reading Room of the British Museum and pursued his investigations in the inner recesses of his mind. His "theory" of evolution is perhaps best expressed by the title of one of his earlier books: Unconscious Memory.

Alfred Russel Wallace shared with Darwin the limelight of the first announcement of the theory of natural selection on July 1st, 1858 and continued to make important contributions to biological theory until his death in 1913. He was, however, unwilling to apply the theory to the development of human beings and took refuge in spiritualism, his later books earning him a reputation as an eccentric. He espoused causes such as anti-vaccination, a subject upon which he discoursed at the University of Toronto in 1886, but derived much of his income from a series of popular, but serious, texts on geography and natural history. His Australasia, the third edition of which appeared in 1883, was a reworking of an earlier work of other authors with much additional material by Wallace.

The late Victorian period was a heyday for amateur naturalists and important contributions to the understanding of particular problems were often made by them. Thomas Garnett was for many years the managing director of a large manufacturing concern in Clitheroe but enthusiastically studied natural history and agriculture, and conducted experiments in such diverse areas as the uses of guano and the artificial propagation of fish. His essays, on a great variety of topics, were posthumously collected, edited and privately published in 1883 by his nephew, Richard Garnett, later the encyclopedic Keeper of Printed Books at the British Museum. This copy was presented by the editor to T.H. Huxley.

Another collection of essays on natural history, but with several authors, also appeared in 1883. Nature Studies, with contributions by Grant Allen, Andrew Wilson, Thomas Foster, Edward Clodd, and Richard A. Proctor, consisted mainly of essays which had already appeared in the periodical press but which could find a large and appreciative audience in book form. "Intelligence in Animals", a subject of much speculation and some rather amusing experiments, was here explicated by Richard Proctor, an astronomer and voluminous writer of popular science, who settled in the United States after a successful speaking tour. The most popular of his fifty-seven books, Half-Hours With a Telescope, first published in 1868, attained its twentieth edition before his death in 1888.

Among the champions of Darwinism in Germany was Ernst Haeckel whose book The Evolution of Man first appeared in England in 1883. Haeckel attempted to apply the theory of natural selection to problems of philosophy, politics and religion and thus often stretched it beyond the areas to which it was strictly applicable. He did, however, conduct important research on the origins of man, following the lead of Huxley and Lyell, and his books were influential in England as well as Germany.

CASE VI: MEDICINE

Few periods in the history of medicine have been as exciting and eventful as the final decades of the nineteenth century. In this period great advances were made towards the conquest of many of the contagious diseases that had been the scourge of mankind throughout history. Most of the major breakthroughs of these years are attributable to the discoveries made in bacteriology, a new field of medical research pioneered by Louis Pasteur in France and by Robert Koch in Germany. Their independent investigations into anthrax in 1876 confirmed the germ theory of disease, leading to an understanding of the role of bacteria and filtrable viruses as the causative agents of contagious disease, and to an elucidation of the mechanisms by which these pathogenic micro-organisms spread through both human and animal communities. More significantly, the germ theory facilitated the diagnosis of disease and provided a rational basis for the development of prophylactic and therapeutic procedures.

The micro-organisms responsible for most bacterial diseases were discovered and described within two decades of Pasteur's and Koch's historic work, the early 1880s being a particularly fruitful period of discovery. The German school of bacteriology, under Koch's tutelage, elaborated the techniques for isolating and identifying microbial cultures. Following his description of the etiology of the anthrax bacillus in 1876, Koch isolated the tubercule bacillus in 1882. Eight years later he introduced a method of vaccination with a culture from the tubercule bacillus known as tuberculin.

In 1883 cholera broke out in Egypt. Koch led a German mission to study the epidemic, and in the course of his investigations, discovered the comma-shaped cholera vibrio. He then proceeded to India where the disease was raging, and there in December 1883 succeeded in isolating the bacillus.

In the same year Edwin Klebs presented new information concerning a specific bacterium that could be observed, after staining, in the throat membranes of diphtheria victims. It remained to differentiate the various bacteria implicated in the disease, and to grow a culture of the one responsible for causing diphtheria. This was achieved in 1884 by Friedrich Löffler, who gave a full description of what came to be known as the Klebs-Löffler bacillus.

The French school of bacteriology under Pasteur devoted its efforts to the question of immunity through vaccination with attenuated cultures of bacteria. Pasteur's celebrated anthrax experiment at Pouilly-le-Fort in 1881, demonstrating the absolute resistance of vaccinated animals to the disease, revealed to the world the practical possibilities of the new science of immunization. In the next few years Pasteur applied the theory and practices of immunization to fowl cholera, swine erysipelas and rabies.

Although Pasteur surmised that as a result of infection, the invaded body produces substances that impede the development of bacterial agents in the tissues, he did not engage in experimental analysis of the immune response of the host. This aspect of immunology was explored by the Russian biologist Il'ia Mechnikov (Metchnikoff), who introduced the term phagocytosis into the medical vocabulary to describe the action of mobile cells in defending the organism from invading micro-organisms by means of intracellular digestion. In 1883 Mechnikov observed the process of phagocytosis in small freshwater

crustacea called daphniae. These observations were the first steps towards Mechnikov's theory of immunity in infectious diseases, announced to the medical world in 1900.

Another consequence of the germ theory has been the attempt to eradicate certain diseases by eliminating not the causative microbial agent, but its insect vector. In the case of malaria, the relationship between the mosquito and the disease was not fully realised until the end of the nineteenth century. In 1883 an American physician, A.F.A. King first suggested that the mosquito was the carrier of the malaria parasite, observed by Alphonse Laveran in 1880. King adduced nineteen reasons why the mosquito was responsible for the transmission of the disease, and proposed a series of measures to control the insect. Interesting though King's speculations were, they lacked experimental validity, and it was not until 1897 that his hypothesis was finally confirmed by the work of Sir Ronald Ross.

Koch first announced his discovery of the tubercule bacillus on 24 March, 1882, to members of the Physiological Society of Berlin. The published paper appeared three weeks later in the Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift, 19. Jahrgang, no. 15, 10 April, 1882.

The first English translation of Koch's classic paper appeared in June 1882 in the Canada Medical and Surgical Journal, v. 10.

Lent by the Academy of Medicine, Toronto.

Koch's account of the isolation of the cholera vibrio was published in the Deutsche medicinische Wochenschrift, 10. Jahrgang, Nr. 45, 6 November 1884.

Pasteur's anthrax experiment at Pouilly-le-Fort in 1881 is described by Charles Édouard Chamberland, director of Pasteur's laboratory, in Le charbon et la vaccination charbonneuse d'après les travaux récents de M. Pasteur (Paris: Bernard Tignol, 1883). On the cover of the book is an interesting gilt-stamped vignette of Pasteur vaccinating a sheep.

Klebs described the diphtheria bacillus at the 2nd Congress of Internal Medicine, held at Wiesbaden in 1883. The proceedings of the congress were published as Verhandlungen des Congresses für innere Medicin, zweiter Congress gehalten zu Wiesbaden, 18.-23., April 1883. (Wiesbaden: J.F. Bergmann, 1883).

Löffler's description of the Klebs-Löffler bacillus was originally published in Mittheilungen aus dem kaiserlichen Gesundheitsamte, Berlin, v. 2, 1884. On display is the translation, published as an abstract by the New Sydenham Society in Recent essays by various authors on bacteria in relation to disease, edited by W. Watson Cheyne (London: New Sydenham Society, 1886).

Mechnikov presented his first paper on phagocytosis to a congress of physicians and naturalists at Odessa in the autumn of 1883. The paper was re-titled "Ueber eine Sprosspilzkrankheit der Daphnien. Beitrag zur Lehre über den Kampf der Phagocyten gegen Krankheitserreger", and published

in Virchows Archiv für pathologische Anatomie und Physiologie und für klinische Medizin, Bd. 96, Hft. 2, 1884.

King's paper, read before the Philosophical Society of Washington on 10 February, 1882, was published in abbreviated form in Popular Science Monthly, v. 23 (May-October, 1883).

P. Oldfield

CASE VII: GREAT BRITAIN

1883 has been perfectly described by R.H. Gretton (A Modern History of the English People) as "a year of groundswell". The books in this case endeavour to show the effects of events in the period of Gladstone's Second Ministry, 1880-1885.

When Karl Marx died: comments in 1883. P.S. Foner, editor. New York: International Publishers, 1973.

The death of Karl Marx, March 14th.

At the funeral of Marx on March 17th, Friedrich Engels, his friend and collaborator, delivered a glowing eulogy in which he said, "Just as Darwin discovered the law of evolution in organic nature, so Marx discovered the law of evolution in human history ..."

Illustrated London News. April 21st: Sketches in Court.

The Phoenix Park murder trials in Dublin.

Irish unrest and English mismanagement had culminated on May 6th, 1882, in the assassination of Thomas Henry Burke, under-secretary for Ireland, and Lord Frederick Cavendish, newly appointed chief secretary, who happened to be walking with Burke in Phoenix Park, Dublin. The group responsible, the 'Invincibles', whose object was "to remove all tyrants from the country", became the bogey of English society. The assassins remained undiscovered until the arrest in 1883 of one of their number, James Carey, who turned Queen's evidence. A dramatic trial ensued; five men were sentenced to death, three to penal servitude for life. The long arm of the Invincibles showed itself a real threat later in the year when Carey was murdered by another of them en route to South Africa where he was being sent for his own safety. By December 1885 it was being rumoured that Gladstone was advocating home rule as the only hope for peace in Ireland.

The Guardian, May 2nd: the report of Gladstone's speech of April 26th.
Punch, May 12th: cartoon on the fate of the Affirmation Bill.

Charles Bradlaugh, Mr. Gladstone and the Affirmation Bill.

In the 1880 general election Charles Bradlaugh, a "militant atheist", was returned as a member for Northampton. He refused to take the oath, calling it "a meaningless form", and instead claimed the right to make an affirmation of allegiance. The resulting controversy as to whether or not he could take his seat dragged on for several years. Although Bradlaugh later expressed his willingness to take the oath the House refused to allow him to do so as a matter of principle and a farcical note was introduced when he administered it to himself in February 1882. An Affirmation Bill to resolve the difficulty was debated for five nights in April 1883, with Gladstone making an eloquent speech in its support on the 26th. On May 2nd the Bill was thrown out by a majority of three. Not until 1885 was Bradlaugh able to take the oath without comment and in 1888 an Affirmation Act was finally passed thus freeing the House from seeming to demand some form of religious conviction in its members.

The Dictionary of National Biography.

Projected in 1881 by its publisher, George Smith, the Dictionary began to take shape in November 1882 with the appointment of its first editor, Leslie Stephen. In March 1883 Sidney Lee became sub-editor and the happy combination of these two complementary minds gave rise to "the best record of a nation's past that any civilization has produced" (G.M. Trevelyan, English Social History). "The Dictionary is a monument of the business ability, the enlightened public spirit and the widespread literary and historical scholarship of the Victorian age at its final culmination."

Volume 57: open at the life of Arnold Toynbee (died March 9th), "social philosopher and economist", whose work did so much to enlighten society as to the needs of the poor.

The Expansion of England, by John Robert Seeley. Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1883.

This remarkable small book, first published in 1883, consists of sixteen lectures intended to answer the question how history should be studied. In the course of his survey of British history since the sixteenth century and the development of England into "Greater Britain", Seeley (1834-1895) made several prognostications which have proved correct; for example, "Russia and the United States will surpass in power the states now called great" (p. 301). His views did much to change Britain's attitude towards her colonies thus setting her on the path that led from Empire to Commonwealth.

CASE VIII: CHURCH AND SOCIETY

A favourite target of Charles Bradlaugh and the secularists was the crude, Evangelical version of the doctrine of the Atonement, that is that Christ's martyrdom served to absolve man of his sins. Such notions appeared to contradict rational ideas of justice as regards individual responsibility for human behaviour. Both Anglican Churchmen and nonconformist clergy were at pains to establish a view of the Atonement different from that propagated by evangelists like C.H. Spurgeon, D.L. Moody, and I.D. Sankey. Examples of this concern are F.W. Farrar et al., The Atonement: A Clerical Symposium on "What is the Scripture Doctrine of the Atonement?" (London: 1883) and J.J. Lias, The Atonement Viewed in the Light of Certain Modern Difficulties; Being the Hulsean Lectures for 1883, 1884, 2nd ed. (London: 1888).

If everyone were seen to be responsible for his own sins, whether of commission or omission, then a greater concern would naturally be shown toward such social evils as poverty and slum housing. Indeed, a concern with social reform was evident on the part of many clergymen. W.H. Fremantle (1831-1916) was an active member of the reformist Charity Organisation Society, and concentrated upon the question of the role of the Church in reforming society in his 1883 Bampton lectures, The World as the Subject of Redemption: Being an Attempt to Set Forth the Functions of the Church as Designed to Embrace the Whole Race of Mankind (London: 1885). Much public attention focused upon the anonymously issued pamphlet The Bitter Cry of Outcast London (London: 1883), whose principal author was Andrew Mearns, Secretary of the London Congregational Church. No previous description of life in the London slums elicited the notoriety of The Bitter Cry, which played an important role in what Beatrice Webb later called "the rediscovery of poverty in the 1880s".

For the Anglican Church the great event of 1883 was the translation of Edward White Benson (1829-1896) from Truro to Canterbury when he succeeded Archibald Campbell Tait (1811-1882) as Archbishop. Drawing upon the courage and diplomatic skills he had displayed as first headmaster of Wellington College (1859-1872), Archbishop Benson was successful in quieting the turmoil over ritualism that had disturbed the primacy of his predecessor. Benson's formal consecration at Canterbury was the 'cover story' of The Graphic for 7 April 1883.

Despite the subtlety with which thoughtful clergymen tried to reach an accommodation between religion and modernity, that 'old tyme religion' lost none of its appeal for a large number of the faithful. Ira David Sankey (1840-1908) was an American bank clerk who became famous for his musical evangelism. From 1870, in partnership with the American revivalist Dwight L. Moody, Sankey toured Britain and North America. Moody preached and Sankey sang. Although his voice was neither technically trained nor particularly strong, Sankey had a gift of emotional rapport with his audience. In taste and style his performances were akin to those featured on the music hall stage. The success of the revival meetings was paralleled by the great success of Sankey's hymnals and songbooks, which appeared in many editions and reprints. The Gospel Choir. No. 2 (Toronto: c1895) is a Canadian example.

If Moody and Sankey set the standard for travelling or 'tent show' revivalists, they found their more sedentary counterpart in Charles Haddon

Spurgeon (1834-1892), who was without rival the most popular English preacher of his generation. He regularly drew congregations of twelve-hundred for his Sunday evening sermons at The Tabernacle, the Baptist chapel he built in South London. His published sermons, such as Illustrations and Meditations; or, Flowers from a Puritan's Garden (London: 1883), were a great commercial success, and enabled him to support a style of life more usually associated with prosperous bankers than with nonconformist ministers, and thus to set an example more familiar in our own age of 'television evangelists'.

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READING ROOM CASES:

VICTORIAN PUBLISHERS' BOOK-BINDINGS

"'Publishers' Bindings' means book **covers** manufactured in quantity, all identical, as opposed to hand-made bindings of single copies ordered individually and each a unique piece of craftsmanship" (Ruari McLean, Victorian Publishers' Book-Bindings).

The books chosen for this exhibit come mainly from the Sybille Pantazzi Collection of Victorian trade bindings, the remainder from other collections in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. They are mostly British with the exception of three or four American publications.

These examples are by no means meant to represent all that was done during the Victorian period with regard to designers, styles of design, materials employed or techniques used. It would be fair to say, however, that among these books are some of the finest examples of the period.

From the Pantazzi Collection (cases 1, 2 and top shelf of case 3) are books designed by W.H. Rogers, John Sliegh, A.H. Warren, Robert Dudley and the most prolific designer of book covers of the 19th century, John Leighton. Cases 3 & 4, with the exception of D.G. Rossetti, show books published towards the end of the century and include such designers as Aubrey Beardsley, Charles Robinson, Byam Shaw and Althea Giles.

Also shown are some brass blocking dies from the Birdsall Collection of Bookbinders' Finishing Tools.

